

Communication

Extreme Heat Media Toolkit: Great Tips on Staying Cool, Hydrated and Informed

Dallas has not seen temperatures below triple digits in more than a month. Over the past several days, temperatures felt as high as 115 in 18 states, including Georgia, Iowa and Florida. And several areas of the nation experienced the hottest July on record. If you haven't done so already, you may want to start using CDC's Extreme [Heat Media Toolkit](#) to help prevent heat-related illness and death in your area. The toolkit provides downloadable and customizable materials to assist with outreach efforts for those that are most vulnerable to extreme heat.

Reaching Communities of Color Through Social and Ethnic Media

In this VICNetwork [Webinar](#), which originally aired July 27th, you will learn about recent research that indicates use of social media by communities of color is increasing even faster than use by the general population. In addition, ethnic media outlets offer important avenues for reaching out to culturally diverse communities through targeted radio, television and newspapers. The VICNetwork is a partnership between NPHIC and the California Immunization Coalition.

Release of Information When Someone Dies or Falls Ill During Health Emergencies

Nonbinding recommendations and [guidance for public health](#) agencies on the release of information concerning deaths, epidemics or emerging diseases were announced July 21. The guidance resulted from a meeting last fall, hosted by ASTHO and the Association of Health Care Journalists. The meeting was prompted by wide variation in information released by public health officials during the H1N1 pandemic. The recommendations are intended to help public health officials balance the need to keep the public informed with requirements to maintain individuals' privacy.

Integrating Social Media into Emergency-Preparedness Efforts

Dr. Raina Merchant, Stacey Elmer and Dr. Nicole Lurie provide this [perspective article](#) in the New England Journal of Medicine to consider "the best way of leveraging" social media communication channels in the preparedness and response to emergencies.

Feel Safer, Be Safer: Using Plain Language in Disaster Preparedness

Feeling Safe, Being Safe is a collection of [multimedia training](#) and preparation tools designed in accessible formats that enhance independence and self-directed planning. Their plain language and pictorial approach employ easy-to-use strategies successful with children, adults, and families because of their adaptability and straightforward learning strategy.



National Level Exercise 2011: Lessons Learned and a Look Behind the Scenes

In May 2011, eight states participated in the National Level Exercise (NLE) 2011, which simulated a magnitude 7.7 earthquake. The exercise was the largest conducted with participants from multiple state, local and federal agencies; plus the private sector and nongovernmental organizations

The Office of Public Health Preparedness took part in the full-scale exercise by coordinating a multiple jurisdictional integrated response using Michigan's Transportable Emergency Search Assistance Medical Unit (MI-TESA). MI-TESA is 140-bed mobile field hospital.

In the event a disaster has overwhelmed medical resources, MI-TESA could be deployed and set up virtually anywhere to treat patients in need of primary care.

Read the [full article](#) about the MI-TESA exercise...

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Read the Next *Guardian* Issue!
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These tools also create openings for persons with disabilities to be viewed as community assets able to assist others in their preparations.

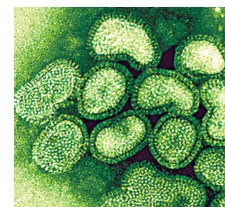
Recommended Resource: Emergency Communication 4 ALL: A Picture Communication Aid

Communication during disasters is critical for conducting life-saving response activities, increasing safety, and decreasing stress and anxiety. [Emergency Communication 4 ALL](#) can be used by persons with disabilities and other access and functional needs following a disaster. This communication aid is aimed at increasing each survivor's understanding of what responders and crisis counselors are trying to communicate and to ease responders' and counselors' work in communicating their messages.

Surveillance & Epidemiology

Pandemic (H1N1) 2009–Associated Deaths Detected by Unexplained Death and Medical Examiner Surveillance

A [recent study](#) found that unexplained death and medical examiner data identified 11%–24% of H1N1-associated deaths not captured by hospital-based surveillance in Minnesota, New Mexico and Oregon. This study illustrates that surveillance systems such as UNEX and Med-X can help quickly identify new threats, especially in younger populations.



Homeland Security

FEMA: Enhanced State / Tribal Mitigation Plan

An updated policy for mitigation planning is available on the Hazard Mitigation Assistance [Website](#). This is a procedure memo for the review of Enhanced State / Tribal Mitigation Plans. These procedures are in effect for any Enhanced Mitigation Plan submitted after January 1, 2011. This supersedes two previously issued memos, Review Procedures for Enhanced State Mitigation Plans (MT-PL-#0, dated October 3, 2002) and Approval of Enhanced State Mitigation Plans (MT-PL-#6, dated December 28, 2006).

Research

Mitigating Effects of Vaccination on Influenza Outbreaks Given Constraints in Stockpile Size and Daily Administration Capacity

Authors in BMC Infectious Diseases apply a [new model](#) for predicting how best to use available vaccine during an influenza outbreak. The authors cite existing models use assumptions that are questionable and which they suggest leads to inaccurate vaccine distribution. They developed a model based on the SIR (Susceptible, Infected, and Recovered) epidemiological model. Their model includes SIR along with the vaccinated (V), deceased due to infection (D), and divides infected individuals into confirmed and unconfirmed (IC and IU). They then compared this model to standard SIR models. The data showed that the new model provided more accurate predictions on how to use vaccines to mitigate influenza outbreaks over the previous models.

Sensitivity of Household Transmission to Household Contact Structure and Size

In PLoS One, researchers examine how the spread of influenza-like illness is affected by different types of household contact with the infected. They simulate two scenarios in which the infected individual stays at home. The first being contact with everyone living in the household and the second having contact with only one primary caregiver. The research showed that staying home and

only being in contact with one person limits the spread of influenza-like illness over being in contact with the entire household. The infection spreads even further as the household size grows larger. The full article is [available online](#).

Structure-Based Drug Design of a New Chemical Class of Small Molecules Active Against Influenza A Nucleoprotein In-Vitro AND In-Vivo

A [knol](#) published in PLoS Currents suggests a new class of [molecules](#) that may lead to new antivirals with a novel mechanism of action. Instead of inhibiting the M2 channel as some current antivirals do, the new mechanism targets the NP (nucleoprotein) which is less likely to change in an influenza virus. The full analysis is available online.

Adverse Events Following Pandemic A (H1N1) 2009 Monovalent Vaccines in Pregnant Women — Taiwan, November 2009–August 2010

In PLoS One, researchers tracked adverse events in pregnant women in Taiwan who received the MF59-adjuvanted 2009 H1N1 vaccine. They collected data 1,275 pregnant women in Taiwan who were vaccinated with MF59-adjuvanted 2009 H1N1 vaccine between November 1, 2009 and August 31, 2010 and compared them those that did not receive adjuvanted vaccine. The [research showed](#) that while there were some adverse reactions to the MF59-adjuvanted 2009 H1N1 vaccine, there were no more than those that received unadjuvanted vaccine. The research is available online.

Invasion of Red Blood Cells by *Francisella tularensis*

Francisella tularensis subspecies *tularensis*, a category A bioweapon, is endemic in many regions of the world, including in the United States. This highly infectious bacterium is capable of causing fatal tularemia, and its virulence is thought to be partly related to its ability to invade and replicate itself within host cells (primarily phagocytes). Although *F.tularensis* is known to invade other cell types in addition to phagocytes, the susceptibility of erythrocytes (RBCs)—the most numerous cell in the blood—to infection with this bacteria is not known. [A research team](#) led by Dr. Gerard Nau at the University of Pittsburgh has recently demonstrated that *F.tularensis* has the capacity to invade RBCs in a mouse model.



National News

Adequate Burn Treatments for Use in Emergencies: Where the Investments Need to Be Made

Dr. Daniel Lorenzo, a burn doctor who has responded to several major public health emergencies, argues in this [commentary](#) that the federal government has not prepared adequately for burn treatment in emergencies; citing the scarcity of burn beds and outdated treatment technology.

HHS Preparedness Grants Help Cities Plan for Anthrax Attacks

The jurisdictions of: Louisville, Boston, Philadelphia and San Diego will each receive \$50,000 grants to develop planning and exercises for the National Postal Model for the delivery of medical countermeasures. The Minnesota Department of Health will also receive funding to conduct a full-scale exercise of a simulated metropolitan anthrax attack.

FDA Issues EUA for Doxycycline

In response to a request from CDC, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an [emergency use authorization](#) (EUA) for post-exposure prophylaxis

of *Bacillus anthracis* (i.e., inhalation anthrax) during an emergency. This EUA will cover dispensing of doxycycline from SNS during an emergency where it is believed that a suspected or known exposure to *Bacillus anthracis* has occurred. In issuing this EUA, FDA has also included approved doxycycline fact sheets for healthcare providers and recipients. Planners can read the authorization letter from FDA and view and print the FDA-approved doxycycline facts sheets online.

Renewal of 2006 Preparedness Law Advances in US House

On July 28, 2011 the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved by voice-vote the Pandemic and All-Hazards Reauthorization Act (HR 2405), which would renew and update the [Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act](#) of 2006.

FEMA Calls for 2011 Individual and Community Preparedness Awards Submissions

FEMA is [accepting submissions](#) for the 2011 Individual and Community Preparedness Awards. The submission deadline is August 26, 2011 at 11:59pm EDT. For more information, please see the attached FEMA Intergovernmental Affairs advisory. Public Health Preparedness Capabilities: National Standards for State and Local Planning

International News

Hospital Safety Index: Pan-American Health Organization/World Health Organization



More than half of the 16,000 hospitals in Latin America and the Caribbean are in areas at high risk for disasters. The [Hospital Safety Index](#) provides a snapshot of the probability that a hospital or health facility will continue to function in emergency situations, based on structural, nonstructural and functional factors, including the environment and the health services network to which it belongs.

Tools & Resources

Catastrophic Mass Violence Resources

In light of the recent events in Norway, the Terrorism and Disaster Program of the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) has created several resources to [support caregivers and youth](#). Check back as more resources will be added.

- Psychological Impact of the Recent Attacks - describes common reactions of individuals who experience catastrophic mass violence.
- Tip Sheet for Youth Talking to Journalists - about the Shooting outlines important things youth should know before talking to reporters.
- Tips for Parents on Media Coverage - presents parents with helpful ideas about media coverage of a disaster or traumatic event.

CDC Releases "Public Health Emergency Response Guide for State, Local, and Tribal Public Health Directors - Version 2.0"

The Public Health Emergency [Response Guide](#) for State, Local, and Tribal Public Health Directors is an all-hazards reference tool for health professionals who are responsible for initiating the public health response during the first 24 hours (i.e., the acute phase) of an emergency or disaster. It provides useful information on the activation and integration of a jurisdiction's public health system into the existing emergency response structure during the acute phase

of an incident. It also contains guidance that is applicable to specific types of incidents, such as floods, earthquakes, and acts of terrorism.

Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities

The American Water Works Association (AWWA) and CDC have released a new guide to help hospitals and health care facilities operate during water supply emergencies. The [94-page guide](#) covers the establishment of response teams, assessment of typical water usage, analysis of emergency water supply alternatives, and other critical considerations.



Planning for an Emergency Drinking Water Supply

Because multiple government agencies and other entities are involved in emergency response, advanced planning is necessary for efficient collaboration. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and American Water Works Association (AWWA) collaborated on this guide outlining [critical planning steps](#) in the event of a drinking water disruption and reviewing the roles and responsibilities among various levels of government.

Office of Minority Health Releases National Plan for Action to End Health Disparities Toolkit

A companion toolkit for the NPA, the Office of Minority Health has released the new NPA Toolkit for Community Action. [The toolkit](#) provides community members information and resources to engage communities and local media as they educate others about the impact disparities have in the lives of individuals and society.

Recommended Resource: Online Resources Available for Persons with Disabilities and Other Access and Functional Needs

The SAMHSA Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series contains themed [resource collections and toolkits](#) that are pertinent to the disaster behavioral health field. This newly updated installment focuses on the behavioral health needs of persons with disabilities and other access and functional needs who have experienced disasters.

Training & Events



CERC/Radiation Webinar Now Archived

This special CDC-NPHIC Webinar from July 21st focuses on "Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication – Radiation." [The Webinar](#) emphasizes the key elements of communicating during a radiation disaster, including CDC research on messaging during and lessons learned from Japan's ongoing nuclear emergency.

Mapping and Tracking Vulnerable Populations Using Geospatial Technologies.

[Online course.](#) (40 minutes) Topics covered include the distribution of hazards and the capacity of populations to prepare for, respond to, cope with, or recover from a hazard event. GIS tools, spatial analysis, and vulnerability assessments will be used to identify priorities, inform evidence based decisions, and target preparedness measures, while highlighting areas with potential for uneven recovery.

State Partners Webinar (archived) - State Surveillance of Chemical Incidents

[Learn how](#) seven states are cooperating with ATSDR to increase safety for people living near places where chemicals are used, transported, and stored.

For chemical incident responders and planners.

New Courses on Planning for Disaster-Related Risk and Functional Needs of People with Disabilities

The University of Kansas Research and Training Center on Independent Living (RTC/IL) and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment are pleased to announce the release of two new and free continuing education courses on the TRAIN Internet educational system. One of the key concepts of FEMA's "Whole Community" approach to emergency management is to understand and meet the true needs of the entire community. Kansas TRAIN: <https://ks.train.org>
All others: www.train.org

Webinar: Ready, Willing, and Able: An Update for Clinicians on Evidenced-based Strategies to Strengthen Mental Health and Behavioral Capacity for Public Health Preparedness

Tuesday, August 16, 2011 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)
Dial-in Number: 888-829-8675 Passcode: 3189025

[This Webinar](#) conducted by Johns Hopkins will discuss approaches to increasing the willingness of healthcare providers to respond to a public health emergency, and describe the five components of the Johns Hopkins Model of Psychological First Aid Training for Paraprofessional Disaster Volunteers.

Webinar: The Latest on Emergency Water Supply Planning

Time: Wednesday, August 31, 2011 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. EDT
Register [HERE](#)

The American Water Works Association and EPA's National Homeland Security Research Center are jointly providing a free Webcast which will discuss the recently released guides on Planning for an Emergency Drinking Water Supply and Emergency Water Supply Planning for Hospitals and Health Care Facilities.

New Webinar: Emergency Registries: An Objective Analysis Tool

Time: September 1, 2011 3:00-4:30 pm
Register [HERE](#)

Some communities offer people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs the chance to register for emergency assistance before and/or during an emergency. This discussion would present a new evaluation tool being developed to assist registry's sponsors and registrants in an, objective and methodical, rather than an emotional, assessment of the effectiveness of the resources and response capacity needed to develop and sustain such a registry.

Date/Time	Event	Location
August 30-Sept 1 2011	<u>2011 Technologies for Critical Incident Preparedness Conference & Expo</u> Advancing Technology: Learning from the past, preparing for the future TCIP 2011 brings together the emergency responder community; local, state, tribal, and federal practitioners; industry representatives; academic experts; and public safety associations to share their knowledge from the field of cutting-edge technologies and advances made over the past 10 years that strengthen our nation's ability to prevent and respond to critical incidents—however and wherever they may occur.	National Harbor, MD

Sept 6-9, 2011	<u>6th International Scientific Conference on Bioaerosols</u> Fungi, Bacteria, Mycotoxins in Indoor and Outdoor Environments and Human Health - This 2011 conference will address state of the art research and practical experience to improve the understanding of microbials (bacteria, mold, bio- and mycotoxins), determine important agents and diagnosis of adverse human health effects, as well as explore new treatment approaches, and the control and prevention of such exposure. Scientific advances and knowledge gaps will be discussed. Future research priorities will be developed.	Sarasota Springs, NY
Sept 25-27, 2011	<u>23rd Annual MCRA Critical Incident Stress Management Conference</u> Five courses are being offered: Group Crisis Intervention. Individual Crisis Intervention Peer Support. Advanced Group Crisis Intervention. Strategic Response to Crisis. Line of Duty Death: Preparing the Best For the Worst	Tustin, MI
October 5 October 6 October 18 October 20 November 1 November 2 November 9 November 10	<u>MDCH 2011 Fall Immunization Conferences</u> keynote speaker from CDC will present a Vaccine Update and also participate in a Troubleshooting Panel at each conference location. The online registration begins August 29th. More details will be posted on the MDCH Division of Immunization Website as they become available.	East Lansing, MI Dearborn, MI Gaylord, MI Marquette, MI Bay City, MI Troy, MI Kalamazoo, MI Grand Rapids, MI
October 13-14, 2011	<u>Michigan's Premier Public Health Conference</u> More information is available online.	Grand Rapids, MI



Mailing Address:
Office of Public Health Preparedness
Capitol View Building - 201 Townsend Street - Lansing, MI 48913
(517) 335-8150 — <http://www.michigan.gov/ophp>

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